

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

ROUTING SLIP

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	DDCI		X		
3	EXDIR		X		
4	D/ICS		X		
5	DDI		X		
6	DDA				
7	DDO		X		
8	DDS&T				
9	Chm/NIC				
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt	DDO for ES 12/16/83			
13	D/EEO				
14	D/Pers				
15	D/OLL				
16	D/PAO		X		
17	SA/IA				
18	AO/DCI				
19	C/IPD/OIS				
20	NIO/LA		X		
21					
22					
SUSPENSE		Date			

Remarks

STAT

13 December 1983

Date

3637 (10-81)

NSC review completed.

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WASHINGTONCONFIDENTIAL

December 12, 1983

Executive Registry
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE GEORGE P. SHULTZ
The Secretary of StateTHE HONORABLE CASPAR W. WEINBERGER
The Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT: Emergency Relief Efforts in Central America (U)

Continued economic decline and increased guerrilla violence in Central America has significantly exacerbated the suffering of the people in the region. These victims of oppression, poverty and violence have all but exhausted the meager resources of those attempting to provide for even basic human needs. (C)

In Honduras and Costa Rica, those fleeing the repressive regime in Managua have exceeded the ability of these governments to furnish even minimal food, shelter, or urgently needed medicines. In El Salvador, the upsurge in guerrilla activity has resulted in a new surge of displaced persons looking into already overcrowded "camps." These refugees and displaced persons have not only created a condition of near term human tragedy, but a potentially explosive security problem as well. The President has determined that this has created an emergency situation in Honduras, Costa Rica and El Salvador which requires urgent action on our part. (C)

In response to the President's direction, we should seek to immediately develop a capability to collect, deliver and distribute emergency supplies of food, medicine, and clothing for the increasing numbers of refugees and displaced persons in Honduras, Costa Rica and El Salvador. Dr. William Walsh of Project Hope has offered to act as a focal point for coordinating the cooperation from private volunteer organizations and individuals who wish to contribute. It is important, however, that we be able to provide responsive deliveries for items received, using DOD assets. To this end, it is requested that the Department of Defense, in coordination with the Department of State's Inter-Agency Group on Assistance to Refugees and Displaced Persons in Central America, develop a means of collecting, delivering and distributing emergency relief supplies collected by volunteer organizations for use in Central America. (C)

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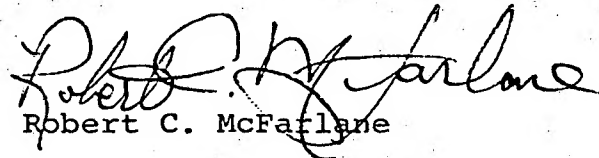
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The President would like to announce this program in a public address or in a Saturday radio talk during the holiday season. Our objective is to provide a meaningful program, responsive to the emergency situation which exists in the region. Your assistance in this urgent endeavor is appreciated. (C)


Robert C. McFarlane

cc: ✓ William J. Casey, DCI
Peter McPherson, AID
Ambassador Eugene Douglas

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